

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----099491 161508Z /46
O R 161315Z JUN 78
FM USMISSION USBERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7050
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 6 USBERLIN 1427

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FOR EUR ONLY

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY)
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE QUESTIONS AND SUGGESTED ANSWERS FOR THE
PRESIDENT'S TOWN MEETING IN BERLIN (PART II OF II)

REF: STATE 147755, USBERLIN 1424

FOLLOWING IS CONTINUATION OF USBERLIN 1424.

12. SPANDAU PRISON
Q. MR. PRESIDENT, WHY DON'T THE ALLIES SIMPLY FREE
RUDOLF HESS FROM SAPNDAU PRISON WHEN THEY ARE IN CHARGE?
A. THE US, BRITISH AND FRENCH GOVERNMENTS FAVOR THE
RELEASE OF MR. HESS FROM SPANDAU ALLIED PRISON
ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS. HOWEVER, BASED ON FOUR-POWER
AGREEMENTS, HESS' RELEASE IS A MATTER REQUIRING THE APPROVAL OF
THE SOVIET UNION AS WELL. THE SOVIET UNION HAS STEADFASTLY REFUSED
OUR HUMANITARIAN PLEAS. THE US AND ITS ALLIES REPECT THEIR
INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS.

Q. WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO MR. HESS' REMAINS IF HE DIES
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AT SPANDAU ALLIED PRISON?
A. THAT IS THE SUBJECT OF A FOUR-POWER AGREEMENT THE
TERMS OF WHICH, DUE TO THE CONFIDENTIALITY WITH WHICH MY
GOVERNMENT TREATS SUCH MATTERS, I AM NOT AT LIBERTY TO
DISCLOSE.

Q. SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO THE GDR, ABRASIMOV,

RECENTLY SAID THAT THE ISSUE OF HESS' REMAINS HAD NOT YET BEEN DECIDED. HOW CAN YOU EXPLAIN THE DIFFERENCES IN YOUR REMARKS.

A. HE WAS IN ERROR.

Q. SOVIET AMBASSADOR ABRASIMOV STATED RECENTLY THAT IT HAD NOT BEEN DECIDED WHAT TO DO WITH THE PRISON ONCE ITS PURPOSE IS FINISHED. IS THAT TRUE?

A. THE PRISON BUILDING AND GROUNDS WERE REQUISITIONED BY THE BRITISH OCCUPATION AUTHORITIES FOR THE PURPOSE OF HOUSING SEVEN PRISONERS CONVICTED AT NUREMBURG UNTIL THEIR SENTENCES WERE CARRIED OUT. UPON MR. HESS' RELEASE OR DEATH THE PURPOSE FOR THE PRISON WOULD HAVE TERMINATED AND IT WOULD REVERT TO THE BRITISH AUTHORITIES TO DISPOSE OF AS THEY SEE FIT. THERE HAS BEEN NO FOUR POWER DECISION ON THE SUBJECT BECAUSE THERE IS NO NEED FOR ONE.

14. ACCESS.

Q. YOUR GOVERNMENT IS A PROTECTING POWER. YOU ARE SUPPOSED TO KEEP THE ACCESS ROUTES TO BERLIN OPEN FOR GERMANS, YET EVERYDAY WE READ IN THE NEWSPAPERS OF TRAVELLERS BEING TURNED BACK BY THE EAST GERMANS. WHAT IS BEING DONE ABOUT THIS?

A. MY GOVERNMENT UNDERTOOK IN THE QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT OF 1971 TO IMPROVE THE TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONFIDENTIAL

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GERMANS AND BERLINERS. I UNDERSTAND THAT SINCE THEN OVER 100 MILLION PERSONS HAVE TRAVELLED BY RAIL AND HIGHWAY BETWEEN BERLIN AND THE FRG. AN OVERWHELMING NUMBER OF THESE HAVE HAD TROUBLE-FREE JOURNEYS; IN THE WORDS OF THE QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT OF 1971, THEY HAVE RECEIVED THE MOST "SIMPLE, EXPEDIENT, AND PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT PROVIDED BY INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE." THE SYSTEM IS NOT PERFECT, AND THERE HAVE INDEED BEEN INDIVIDUAL CASES OF DIFFICULTY, BUT A MECHANISM EXISTS FOR GOVERNMENTS OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND THE GDR TO RESOLVE SUCH CASES.

15. EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (EC)

Q. IS BERLIN A CONSTITUENT PART OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY (EC)?

A. IT IS MORE CORRECT TO SAY THAT WEST BERLIN IS INCLUDED IN THE AREA OF APPLICATION OF THE BASIC EC TREATIES. CONSEQUENTLY THE DECISIONS, ACTS, ORDINANCES AND SO FORTH OF THE EC MAY BE APPLIED IN BERLIN SUBJECT TO ALLIED REVIEW. IN THAT SENSE, WEST BERLIN IS VERY MUCH A PART OF THE EC.

Q. WHY CAN'T I, AS A BERLINER, PARTICIPATE LIKE
ALL OTHER CITIZENS OF EC COUNTRIES IN A PUBLIC ELECTION
OF MY REPRESENTATIVES TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT OF THE
EC?

A. THE MODE FOR SELECTION OF BERLIN DEPUTIES TO
THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT WAS AGREED UPON BY THE THREE
POWERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLITICAL STATUS OF BERLIN.

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O R 161315Z JUN 78
FM USMISSION USBERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7051
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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THE METHOD OF SELECTION DECIDED UPON BY THE GERMAN AUTH-
ORITIES FOLLOWING CONSULTATIONS WITH THE THREE POWERS IS
COMPARABLE TO THE MODE BY WHICH BERLIN SELECTS ITS REPRE-
SENTATIVES TO THE BUNDESTAG.

Q. BUT THE ALLIES DO NOT PERMIT BERLIN DEPUTIES IN
THE BUNDESTAG TO VOTE IN PLENUM; WHY HAVE THE ALLIES
AGREED THAT OUR DEPUTIES TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT COULD VOTE?

A. THE COMPETENCES OF THE TWO PARLIAMENTS ARE
SUFFICIENTLY DIFFERENT THAT IT WAS NOT CONSIDERED NECESSARY
TO PROHIBIT BERLIN DEPUTIES TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT FROM
HAVING FULL VOTING RIGHTS. THEY HAVE THUS HAD VOTING RIGHTS IN
THE PARLIAMENT FROM ITS INCEPTION.

16. INTELLIGENCE

Q. DOES THE UNITED STATE PERFORM ELECTRONIC OR POSTAL
INTERCEPTION IN BERLIN.

A. I WILL NOT ADDRESS THAT QUESTION. IT IS A LONG
STANDING POLICY NEITHER TO CONFIRM NOR DENY POSSIBLE

INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT,

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Q. DOES THE BERLIN CITY GOVERNMENT PERFORM ELECTRONIC OR POSTAL INTERCEPTION?

A. I WILL NOT ADDRESS THAT QUESTION. AS IT IS MY POLICY NEITHER TO CONFIRM NOR DENY POSSIBLE INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, I WILL NOT COMMENT ON THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH ACTIVITIES IN AN AREA WHERE THE USG IS ONE OF THE SUPREME POWERS.

Q. DO THE BRITISH OR FRENCH AUTHORITIES IN BERLIN PERFORM ELECTRONIC OR POSTAL INTERCEPTS IN BERLIN?

A. I WILL NOT ADDRESS THAT QUESTION. AS IT IS MY POLICY NEITHER TO CONFIRM NOR DENY POSSIBLE INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, I WILL NOT COMMENT ON THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH ACTIVITIES IN AN AREA WHERE THE USG IS ONE OF THE SUPREME POWERS.

17. DEMILITARIZED STATUS OF BERLIN

Q. BECAUSE OF BERLIN'S DEMILITARIZED STATUS, CITIZENS SUCH AS PROSECUTORS AND JUDGES IN TERRORIST TRIALS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO CARRY WEAPONS FOR SELF-DEFENSE. PRIVATE ARMED BODYGUARDS ARE ALSO FORBIDDEN. SHOULD NATO THE ALLIES, WHO HAVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR BERLIN, GROW UP WITH THE TIMES AND PERMIT BERLINERS PROTECTION EQUAL TO THAT IN THE FRG (AND US)?

A. BERLIN'S DEMILITARIZED STATUS IN LEGALLY RECOGNIZED IN EARLY POSTWAR FOUR-POWER LEGISLATION. WE BELIEVE THAT RESPECT FOR FOUR-POWER LEGISLATION IN BERLIN IS OF CONTINUING IMPORTANCE. WE RECOGNIZE THE NEED TO PROTECT CITIZENS AGAINST TERRORIST AND OTHER CRIMINAL ATTACKS AND HARASSMENT. THE BERLIN POLICE TAKE THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES SERIOUSLY IN THIS RESPECT AND THE THREE WESTERN ALLIES ARE IN REGULAR CONSULTATION WITH THEM ON THIS MATTER.

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Q. A YOUNG EAST BERLINER (NICO HUEBNER) CITED THE DEMILITARIZED STATUS OF BERLIN AS THE REASON WHY HE SHOULD NOT BE INDUCTED INTO THE GDR ARMY. HE HAS BEEN ARRESTED BY THE EAST, WHICH HAS GENERALLY IGNORED THE APPLICATION OF ALLIED DEMILITARIZATION LAWS TO EAST BERLIN. IS NOT DEMILITARIZATION NOW A CRUEL JOKE? CANNOT THE WESTERN ALLIES DO SOMETHING TO OBTAIN HUEBNER'S RELEASE?

A. PRESIDENT LORENZ HAS WRITTEN TO ME ABOUT MR. HUEBNER. I HAVE ASKED THAT A REPLY BE PREPARED TO HIS LETTER. I FULLY UNDERSTAND THE CONCERN OVER THIS CASE. IT REMAINS OUR POSITION THAT DEMILITARIZATION APPLIES TO ALL FOUR SECTORS OF BERLIN AND THE SOVIET AUTHROITIES ARE IN NO DOUBT THAT THE WESTERNALLIED POSITION REMAINS UNCHANGES. UNFORTUNATELY, SOVIET OBSTRUCTION HAS MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE, DESPITE OUR EFFORTS, FOR THE ALLIED KOMMANDATURA TO CARRY OUT ITS DESISIONS IN ALL FOUR SECTORS OF THE CTIY. AS YOU KNOW, THIS SITUATION HAS PREVAILED FOR THE PAST THIRTY YEARS.

18. TERRORISM

Q. WHAT ARE THE ALLIES DOING AND WHAT DO THEY PLAN TO DO TO COMPAT TERRORISM IN BERLIN?

A. TERRORIST ACTS, THOUGH OFTEN ALLEGED TO GE POLITICAL ACTS BY THEIR PERPETRATORS, ARE, IN FACT, CRIMINAL ACTS. AS YOU MAY KNOW, SINCE THE DECLARATION ON BERLIN IN 1955, THE GERMAN AUTHORITIES IN BERLIN HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE IN BERLIN. THE ALLIES REVIEW ALL LOCAL MATTERS WHICH MAY AFFECT ALLIED RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES. NONETHLESS, THE INVESTIGATION AND PROSECTUION OF TERRORIST ACTS AND TERRORISTS IN BERLIN IS A MATTER FOR THE GERMAN AUTHORITIES; THE US AND THE OTHER ALLIES ASSIST THE BERLIN AUTHORITIES IN A NUMBER OF WAYS AND ARE KEPT INFORMED OF IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS.

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O R 161315Z JUN 78
FM USMISSION USBERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7052
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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19. NARCOTICS

Q. HEROIN, WHICH KILLED 87 PERSONS IN BERLIN LAST YEAR, FLOWS INTO THE WESTERN SECTORS UNIMPEDED BY EITHER EAST GERMAN OR WESTERN AUTHORITIES. MUCH OF IT IS SAID TO CIME FROM TURKEY ON FLIGHTS TO THE EAST GERMAN AIRPORT OF SCHOENEFELD, JUST OUTSIDE BERLIN. CANNOT SOMETHING BE DONE?

A. WE ARE DEEPLY CONCERNED OVER INTERNATIONAL TRAFFICKING IN ILLICIT DRUGS. GIVEN OUR SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES IN BERLIN, WE SHARE YOUR CONCERN OVER THE HEROIN PROBLEM HERE. US EXPERTS FROM THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY HAVE BEEN WORKING CLOSELY WITH BERLIN AND OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT REPRESENTATIVES TO FIND WAYS TO COMBAT MORE EFFECTIVELY THE HEROIN TRAFFIC. COOPERATION IS NECESSARY ON THE PART OF ALL COUNTRIES INVOLVED, ESPECIALLY THOSE ON SMUGGLING ROUTES. I KNOW THAT ONE PROBLEM IS THE EASE WITH WHICH PERSONS ONCE THROUGH EASTERN SECTOR CONTROLS MAY ENTER THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN. IT IS OUR BASIC POSITION THAT BERLIN REMAINS ONE CITY AND THAT THE WESTERN ALLIES SHOULD NOT BUILD A WALL ON THEIR SIDE. IT IS WITHIN THIS POLITICAL REALITY THAT WE MUST DEAL WITH PRACTICAL CURRENT PROBLEMS SUCH AS DRUGS.

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20. CIVIL AVIATION

Q. MRM PRESIDENT, YOU MAY NOT REALIZE ONLY AMERICAN FRENCH, AND BRITISH AIRLINES FLY BETWEEN BERLIN AND CITIES IN GERMANY. OVER MOST ROUTES ONLY ONE AIRLINE PROVIDES SERVICE; FOR EXAMPLE, ONLY PAN AMERICAN FLIES TO BRANKFURT. WHY DO THE ALLIES MAINTAIN THIS MONOPLY FOR THEIR AIRLINES?

A. AIRLINES OF THE THREE WESTERN POWERS AND OF THE SOVIET UNION FLY TO BERLIN AS A MATTER OF RIGHT; AIRCRAFT OF OTHER NATIONS MAY DO SO WITH THE PERMISSION OF ALL FOUR GOVERNMENTS. THE ALLIED GOVERNMENTS FAVOR ADDITIONAL AIR CARRIERS IN THE BERLIN SERVICE; IN FACT, SEVERAL YEARS AGO THE THREE POWERS GRANTED LANDING PERMISSION AT TEGEL AIRPORT (IN WEST BERLIN) TO SEVERAL CARRIERS, INCLUDING LUFTHANSA. IT HAS NOT BEEN POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, TO REACH AGREEMENT WITH THE SOVIET UNION FOR AIRLINES OF OTHER COUNTRIES TO FLY TO BERLIN IN A WAY WHICH WOULD PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF AIR ACCESS ON WHICH YOUR CITY DEPENDS. AS FLYING IS THE MOST RTOUBLE FREE FORM OF ACCESS TO BERLIN, I DO NOT THINK IT WOULD BE WIDE TO AGREE THAT OTHER AIRLINES COME TO BERLIN UNDER TERMS WHICH WULD PUT ALL AIR ACCESS TO THE CITY IN QUESTION.

Q. WHY CANNOT OUR GERMAN AIRLINE LUFTHANSA FLY BETWEEN BERLIN AND OTHER GERMAN CITIES?

A. (SAME REPLY AS ABOVE.)

Q. WHY IS THE SERVICE WHICH PAN AMERICAN PROVIDES BETWEEN FRANKFURT, HAMBURG AND MUNICH ON ONE HAND AND BERLIN ON THE OTHER HAND SO POOR? FLIGHTS FREQUENTLY LEAVE LATE OR ARE OVERBOOKED. YOUR COUNTRY AND THE OTHER TWO WESTERN ALLIES HAVE A MONOPOLY OF CIVIL AIR
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SERVICE INTO WEST BERLIN. WHY CANNOT QUALITY AIR SERVICE BE PROVIDED TO THOSE LIVING HERE?

A. MY GOVERNMENT SEEKS A HIGH QUALITY AIR SERVICE FOR THE CITY WHICH AT THE SAME TIME PERMITS THE AIRLINES TO ACHIEVE THEIR COMMERCIAL OBJECTIVES. SEVERAL YEARS AGO (1975), THE THREE ALLIED GOVERNMENTS AGREED WITH A BRITISH PROPOSAL THAT THE AIRLINES COULD BEST ACHIEVE THEIR OBJECTIVES OF SERVICE AND PROFITABILITY BY AN EFFICIENT DIVISION OF THE AIR ROUTES FROM BERLIN AMONG THE TWO PRINCIPAL CARRIERS, PAN AMERICAN AND BRITISH AIRWAYS. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO REVIEW THE BERLIN AIR SERVICES WITH THE WELFARE OF THE TRAVELER IN MIND.

21. BERLIN DOCUMENT CENTER (BDC)

Q. THE UNITED STATES CONTROLS MILLIONS OF NAZI RECORDS IN THE BERLIN DOCUMENT CENTER WHICH COULD BE USED TO TRACK DOWN AND PUNISH NAZIS WHO ARE STILL LIVING TODAY. WHY DOESN'T THE US PERMIT ACCESS TO THESE RECORDS?

A. THE CENTER IS AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION TO OFFICIAL AGENCIES OF FRIENDLY GOVERNMENTS. THE CENTER HAS OFTEN PROVIDED OFFICIAL AGENCIES WITH INFORMATION USED IN THE PROSECUTION OF PERSONS ACCUSED OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES DURING THE WAR.

Q. MAY I AS A PRIVATE CITIZEN BE GRANTED ACCESS TO THE CENTER'S RECORDS?

A. THE GREAT MAJORITY OF THE CENTER'S HOLDINGS ARE BIOGRAPHIC RECORDS. EXCEPT IN CASES WHERE PERSONS HAVE BEEN CONVICTED BY POSTWAR TRIBUNALS FOR OFFENSES ARISING OUT OF PRE-1945 EVENTS, SUCH RECORDS, UNDER INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED ARCHIVAL PRINCIPLES, CANNOT BE MADE GENERALLY AVAILABLE. IF YOU HAVE A LEGITIMATE REASON FOR ACCESS TO RECORDS AT THE CENTER, YOU SHOULD CONTACT THE CENTER DIRECTLY. THEY WILL ADVISE YOU WHAT RECORDS ARE AVAILABLE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND WILL REVIEW YOUR REQUEST CAREFULLY TO DETERMINE TO WHAT
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DEGREE THEY CAN ASSIST YOU.

Q. THE US AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY ARE SUPPOSED TO BE NEGOTIATING TRANSFER OF THE BDC ARCHIVES TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY. WHY HAS THIS NOT YET HAPPENED? IS THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT STILL TRYING TO PROTECT FORMER NAZIS?

A. THE CENTER IS NOT NOW NOR HAS IT EVER BEEN USED TO SHIELD NAZIS. THE TRANSFER IS INDEED THE SUBJECT OF NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS. AS I UNDERSTAND, OUR NEGOTIATORS ARE CURRENTLY CONSIDERING THE COMPLICATED

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O R 161315Z JUN 78
FM USMISSION USBERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7053
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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PROBLEM OF PROVIDING FOR PUBLIC ACCESS WHILE PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF PRIVACY OF PRIVATE PERSONS WHO WERE NEVER INVOLVED IN CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES BUT WHOSE NAMES APPEAR IN THE FILES.

2. NATIONALDEMOKRATISCHE PARTEI DEUTSCHLANDS (NEO-NAZI PARTY)

Q. WHY DO THE ALLIES BAN IN BERLIN THE NPD (NATIONAL-DEMOKRATISCHE PARTEI DEUTSCHLANDS), A PARTY WHICH IS LEGAL IN THE FRG AND SUPPORTS THE FRG CONSTITUTION, AND NOT THE KPD (KOMMUNISTISCHER PARTEI DEUTSCHLAND--MAOIST) OR SEW (SOZIALISTISCHE EINHEITSPARTEI WESTBERLIN--MOSCOW-LINE COMMUNISTS), WHICH SEEK TO OVERTHROW THE DEMOCRATIC ORDER

OF OUR CITY?

A. THE NPD AS A PARTY IS NOT BANNED IN BERLIN; HOWEVER, AT THE REQUEST OF THE BERLIN SENAT, THE ALLIES HAVE ON MANY OCCASIONS ISSUED ORDERS BANNING THE HOLDING OF PUBLIC MEETINGS BY THE NPD IN BERLIN WHEN ADVISED THAT SUCH MEETINGS COULD POSE A THREAT TO PUBLIC ORDER IN BERLIN. DISTRIBUTION
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OF NPD PROPAGANDA HAS BEEN BANNED ON THE SAME GROUNDS. I AM UNAWARE OF ANY REQUESTS THAT ACTIVITIES OF OTHER PARTIES HAVE BEEN CURTAILED ON SIMILAR GROUNDS.

Q. DIDN'T THE THREE WESTERN ALLIES MAKE A SECRET AGREEMENT WITH THE SOVIET UNION TO BAN THE NPD'S ACTIVITIES IN BERLIN WHILE AGREEING TO PERMIT COMMUNIST PARTIES TO CONTINUE TO FUNCTION HERE?

A. NO. NO SUCH AGREEMENT WAS REACHED. THERE WERE NO "SECRET AGREEMENTS" BETWEEN THE ALLIES AND THE SOVIETS AT THE TIME THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED.

23. EXFILTRATION AND ESCAPES

Q. GERMANS CONTINUE TO RISK THEIR LIVES ATTEMPTING TO ESCAPE FROM EAST GERMANY. OTHER GERMANS RISK LONG PRISON SENTENCES HELPING ESCAPEES GET TO THE WEST. WHAT IS YOUR POSITION ON ESCAPEES AND THOSE WHO ASSIST THEM?

A. EVERY REFUGEE WHO REACHES THE SANCTUARY OF THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN IS QUICKLY SHIELDED AND ASSISTED. NO REFUGEE IS SENT BACK. THERE ARE NO LAWS IN MY COUNTRY, NOR ARE THERE LAWS IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OR IN BERLIN WHICH PROHIBIT THE FREE MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE. AS YOU KNOW, HOWEVER, THE EAST GERMANS IMPOSE SEVERE PENALTIES ON PERSONS THEY APPREHEND WHO ARE ENGAGED IN ASSISTING EAST GERMANS TO LEAVE THE GDR. IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT NEITHER I NOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE APPROVE OF THESE LAWS. BUT WE WOULD FAIL IN OUR OBLIGATIONS TO US CITIZENS LIVING OR TRAVELING ABROAD IF WE DID NOT ADVISE THEM OF THIS GDR LEGISLATION AND THE PENALTIES ATTACHED TO IT. I UNDERSTAND THAT THE FRG MAINTAINS A SIMILAR POLICY.
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24. ASYLEES

Q. WHY DOES THE US NOT PERMIT CONTROLS TO BE PUT INTO EFFECT TO KEEP OUT THE HORDES OF FOREIGNERS WHO, ESPECIALLY PAKISTANIS, COME TO WEST BERLIN, CLAIM POLITICAL ASYLUM, AND GO ON WELFARE OR ENGAGE IN CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES HERE, SUCH AS NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING?

A. RESIDENCE AND ASYLUM REQUIREMENTS ARE THE SUBJECT OF LAWS OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY WHICH HAVE BEEN EXTENDED TO BERLIN AFTER ALLIED REVIEW AND THEREFORE ARE THE PROVINCE OF GERMAN AUTHORITIES. IN AREAS WHERE ALLIED RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES MAY BE AFFECTED, WE WORK CLOSELY WITH GERMAN AUTHORITIES TO RESOLVE SUCH PROBLEMS.

25. ECONOMIC ISSUES

Q. WHAT IS THE UNITED STATES DOING FOR THE BERLIN ECONOMY?

A. THE UNITED STATES IS COMMITTED TO HELP MAINTAIN AND SUPPORT THE ECONOMIC VITALITY OF WEST BERLIN. WE AND OUR WESTERN ALLIES STRESSED IN THE LONDON DECLARATION OF MAY 1977 OUR DETERMINATION THAT WEST BERLIN SHOULD REMAIN AN ATTRACTIVE PLACE IN WHICH TO INVEST AND WORK. AMERICAN FIRMS AND BUSINESS ENTERPRISES IN BERLIN ARE QUITE ACTIVE. THEY ACCOUNT FOR SEVEL PERCENT OF PRODUCTION HERE AND ABOUT SIX PERCENT OF TOTAL EMPLOYMENT. THE BERLIN BRANCH OF THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN GERMANY IS AMONG THE MOST ACTIVE OF SUCH GROUPS IN EUROPE. YOU MAY RECALL THAT IT RECENTLY CELEBRATED ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY HERE WITH A NUMBER OF GALA EVENTS. I SENT MRS. JUANITA KREPS, MY SECRETARY OF COMMERCE, TO BERLIN TO REPRESENT ME AT THAT EVENT.

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THERE ARE MANY AREAS IN WHICH THE U.S. TIES TO PROMOTE BERLIN'S ECONOMIC WELL-BEING. WE HAVE AN ACTIVE TRADE PROMOTION PROGRAM HERE, CHARGED WITH MAINTAINING AND DEVELOPING TIES BETWEEN BERLIN FIRMS AND AMERICAN SUPPLIERS. THE UNITED STATES PARTICIPATES IN SEVERAL BERLIN TRADE FAIRS, NOTABLY GREEN WEEK AND THE INTERNATIONAL TOURISM FAIR. WE HAVE SUPPORTED THE ACTIVITIES OF YOUR NEW INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS CENTER BY PUTTING BERLIN LEADERS IN TOUCH WITH LARGE ORGANIZATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES WHICH MIGHT WISH TO MEET HERE. WE HAVE ENCOURAGED AMERICAN HOTELIERS TO EXAMINE THE OPPORTUNITY PRESENTED BY THE SENAT'S HOTEL PROMOTION PROGRAM. THESE ARE ONLY ILLUSTRATIVE OF OUR

COMMITMENT TO BERLIN'S ECONOMIC PROGRESS AND WELL-BEING.

Q: WHY WERE YOU UNABLE TO GET THE FORD MOTOR
COMPANY TO BUILD ITS NEW FACTORY IN BERLIN?

A: WHEN GOVERNING MAYOR STOBBE VISITED ME IN THE
WHITE HOUSE LAST SUMMER, WE TALKED ABOUT THAT POSSIBILITY.
I ASSISTED YOUR MAYOR IN GETTING INTO DIRECT CONTACT WITH
HENRY FORD HIMSELF, WHOSE INTEREST IN BERLIN IS WELL
KNOWN. HOWEVER, MY COUNTRY, LIKE YOURS, ENJOYS A FREE
ENTERPRISE ECONOMIC SYSTEM WHERE DECISIONS ON PRIVATE
INVESTMENT ARE NOT DICTATED BY GOVERNMENT. AS I
UNDERSTAND IT, FORD'S DECISION TO LOCATE IN WALES WAS

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O R 161315Z JUN 78
FM USMISSION USBERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7054
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BASED ON ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS SUCH AS ECONOMIES OF
SCALE, TECHNICAL MARKETING FACTORS AND PROXIMITY TO
OTHER FORD FACILITIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

Q: ARE YOU MAKING A REAL CONTRIBUTION TO BERLIN'S
ECONOMIC WELFARE BY YOUR VISIT OR ARE YOU GOING TO
ANNOUNCE ANY SPECIAL PROGRAMS TO HELP BERLIN?

A: I AM HERE TODAY TO DEMONSTRATE MY OWN DEDICA-
TION TO THE PEACE AND PROSPERITY OF THIS CITY. IF
BUSINESS LEADERS BELIEVE THAT THE POLITICAL SITUATION
IN AND AROUND BERLIN WILL REMAIN STABLE, THEN THE
CITY WILL CONTINUE TO PROSPER AND BUSINESS CAN BE

CARRIED ON AS USUAL. IN OTHER WORDS, A PEACEFUL ATMOSPHERE IS NEEDED IF BUSINESS- AND COMMERCE ARE TO THRIVE. YOU MAY BE ASSURED THAT THE UNITED STATES INTENDS TO MAINTAIN THE PEACE AND STABILITY IN AND AROUND BERLIN. I AM SURE THAT THIS WILL ENCOURAGE INVESTMENT AND HELP YOUR COMMERCE AND TRADE TO FLOURISH.

AS A PRACTICAL DEMONSTRATION OF OUR INTEREST IN
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THIS CITY, I HAVE SENT SEVERAL CABINET OFFICERS TO DISCUSS ECONOMIC MATTERS HERE SINCE MY ADMINISTRATION TOOK OFFICE. TREASURY SECRETARY BLUMENTHAL WAS HERE LAST NOVEMBER AND WAS ABLE TO HEAR AT FIRSTHAND ABOUT THE ECONOMIC PROSPECTS AND PROBLEMS OF THIS CITY. SECRETARY OF COMMERCE KREPS WAS HERE JUST THREE MONTHS AGO; SHE REPORTED TO ME ON HER FRANK AND USEFUL CONVERSATIONS WITH LEADERS OF YOUR BUSINESS COMMUNITY. I AM GLAD MANY ECONOMIC MATTERS ARE BEING DISCUSSED AT WORKING LEVELS BETWEEN YOUR GOVERNMENT AND MINE ON A DAILY BASIS.

Q: IS THE UNITED STATES DOING ANYTHING TO BRING INVESTMENT TO BERLIN?

A: I KNOW THAT NEW INVESTMENT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO YOU, BECAUSE IT CREATES JOBS. I AM HAPPY TO KNOW THAT YOU RECENTLY ESTABLISHED THE BERLIN PROMOTION COMPANY HEADED BY MR. ROBERT LAYTON. HE AND HIS STAFF WILL BE TRAVELLING AROUND THE WORLD SEEKING TO ATTRACT NEW BUSINESS AND INVESTMENT TO BERLIN. THEY CAN CERTAINLY COUNT ON OUR SUPPORT FOR THIS TASK IN THE UNITED STATES. THE TASK OF ATTRACTING NEW INVESTMENT, HOWEVER, IS NOT EASY. THE COMPETITION IS FIERCE, EVEN WITHIN THE UNITED STATES. NEARLY HALF OF THE FIFTY STATES IN MY COUNTRY HAVE SALESMEN TRAVELLING AROUND SEEKING TO ATTRACT NEW INVESTMENT FOR THEMSELVES AND THEIR STATES. THE BERLIN PROMOTION COMPANY CAN LEARN FROM THEIR EXPERIENCE THAT THIS IS A HARD JOB REQUIRING PATIENCE AND ENDURANCE.

Q: WHAT IS THE UNITED STATES DOING TO ENCOURAGE INCREASED BERLIN CONVENTION BUSINESS?

A: WE HAVE ASSISTED YOUR LEADERS IN CONTACTING
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THE MAJOR CONVENTION ORGANIZATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

AND HAVE ENCOURAGED BERLIN TO COMPETE STRONGLY IN THE INTERNATIONAL MARKET PLACE FOR CONVENTIONS. I KNOW THAT YOUR NEW INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS CENTER (ICC) WILL ACCOMMODATE 5,000 PEOPLE. IT IS THEREFORE USEFUL THAT THE ICC ITSELF IS ACTIVELY ADVERTISING TO MAKE ITSELF KNOWN THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES. I HAVE HEARD THAT SEVERAL AMERICAN CONVENTIONS ARE INTERESTED IN HOLDING THEIR MEETINGS IN YOUR NEW ICC. I BELIEVE THAT ONCE YOU HAVE ALL YOUR NEW HOTELS BUILT, LARGER AMERICAN GROUPS WILL BE ABLE TO COME TO BERLIN TO ATTEND CONVENTIONS.

26. PRESIDENT'S DECISION NOT TO TRAVEL TO EAST BERLIN.

Q: WHY DID YOU NOT GO TO EAST BERLIN DURING THIS TRIP TO DEMONSTRATE THAT BERLIN IS ONE CITY AND THAT YOU HAVE RIGHT OF ACCESS TO THE EAST AS WELL AS THE WEST?

A: THE ALLIED RIGHT OF FREE CIRCULATION THROUGH ALL PARTS OF GREATER BERLIN IS DEMONSTRATED ON A DAILY BASIS BY ALLIED SOLDIERS AND OFFICIALS GOING TO EAST BERLIN AND VISITS TO WEST BERLIN BY SOVIET PERSONNEL. I DO NOT THINK ANYTHING ADDITIONAL WOULD HAVE BEEN ACCOMPLISHED HAD I TAKEN TIME AWAY FROM MY VISIT TO WEST BERLIN TO CROSS OVER TO THE EAST.

27. LOCAL MILITARY ISSUES

NOTE: THE FOLLOWING POSSIBLE QUESTIONS ARE DRAWN FROM LETTERS RECEIVED FROM INDIVIDUALS AND SMALL INTEREST GROUPS ON ISSUES OF A VERY LOCALIZED NATURE. THEY WOULD IN EACH CASE BE BEST ANSWERED BY "I DO NOT KNOW THE DETAILS OF THIS PROBLEM, BUT I AM SURE THAT THE U.S. COMMANDER AND HIS STAFF HERE IN BERLIN CAN PROVIDE YOU AN ANSWER.") HOWEVER, IF A DIRECT AN-CONFIDENTIAL

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SWER IS PREFERRED, WE SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING:

Q: THERE HAVE BEEN REPEATED COMPLAINTS WITH NO ACTION ON THE NOISE ON WEEKENDS FROM SHOOTING AT ROSE RANGE. CAN YOU TELL US WHAT IS BEING DONE TO STOP THIS ANNOYANCE?

A: IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE WEEKEND SHOOTING PRACTICE AT ROSE RANGE IS NOT FROM OFFICIALLY SPONSORED ACTIVITY BY U.S. TROOPS. THE WEEKEND SHOOTING LIMITED AT ROSE RANGE IS DONE PRIMARILY BY BERLIN POLICE AND GERMAN SPORTS CLUBS WITH ONLY LIMITED PARTICIPATION BY U.S. SOLDIERS. MILITARY PERSONNEL DO USE THE RANGE FOR TRAINING DURING THE

WEEK. THE ONLY WAY WE COULD PREVENT WEEKEND SHOOTING AT ROSE RANGE WOULD BE TO DENY THE RANGE TO YOUR FELLOW BERLINERS WHO WISH TO PRACTICE SHOOTING SKILLS AND OUR TROOPS WHO ARE WORKING DURING THE WEEK. EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE TO REDUCE THE NOISE BY BAFFLES BUT SOME NOISE IS INEVITABLE.

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Q: THE PEOPLE IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD ARE CONSTANTLY DISTURBED BY NOISE FROM TANK MOVEMENTS. CAN ANYTHING BE DONE TO STOP THIS NOISE?

A: THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF THE U.S. TROOPS STATIONED HERE IS TO KEEP THE PEOPLE OF BERLIN FREE. TO DO THIS OUR TROOPS MUST BE TRAINED. THOUGH WE TRY TO PERFORM OUR MOVEMENTS AND EXERCISES WITH A MINIMUM OF DISTURBANCE TO THE POPULATION OF BERLIN, WE MUST KEEP OUR TROOPS IN TOP SHAPE TO PROTECT YOU. THEREFORE SOME NOISE WILL HAVE TO BE TOLERATED.

Q: DO YOU THINK IT IS FAIR THAT THE U.S. FORCES USE LAND THAT WE NEED FOR CIVIC CENTERS AND OUR OWN PURPOSES FOR BUILDING HOUSING FOR THEIR TROOPS?

A: AS LONG AS WE HAVE TROOPS HERE TO PROTECT BERLIN WE SHALL HAVE TO HOUSE THEM AND THEIR FAMILIES. WHEN WE NEED LAND FOR ANY PURPOSE WE NEGOTIATE WITH THE COMPETENT BERLIN GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITIES AND BY MUTUAL

AGREEMENT THE LAND TO BE USED IS DETERMINED. WE DO NOT
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UNILATERALLY MOVE INTO ANY AREAS.

Q: WHAT IS BEING DONE TO ALLEVIATE THE FINANCIAL
HARDSHIP OF THE AMERICAN SOLDIERS IN BERLIN (FEDERAL
REPUBLIC OF GERMANY) WHICH IS A RESULT OF THE FALLING
EXCHANGE RATE OF THE DOLLAR?

A: BEFORE ANSWERING THIS QUESTION I WOULD LIKE
TO SAY TO YOU AND TO THE PEOPLE OF BERLIN AND THE FEDERAL
REPUBLIC THAT WE ARE GRATIFIED AT THE CONCERN AND INTEREST
YOU HAVE SHOWN AND ARE SHOWING REGARDING THE WELFARE
OF THE AMERICAN SOLDIERS STATIONED HERE, AND YOUR DEMON-
STRATED WILLINGNESS TO COME TO THEIR ASSISTANCE IN TIMES
OF DIFFICULTY. WE ARE AWARE OF THE FINANCIAL HARD-
SHIPS THAT A FALLING DOLLAR HAS CAUSED FOR SOME OF OUR
SOLDIERS STATIONED OVERSEAS. WE HAVE TAKEN A NUMBER
OF STEPS TO INCLUDE ADJUSTMENT OF "COST OF LIVING
ALLOWANCES", THE GRANTING OF SUCH ALLOWANCES TO YOUR
MARRIED SOLDIERS PREVIOUSLY NOT ELIGIBLE
FOR SUCH ALLOWANCES, AND PERMISSION FOR FAMILY
MEMBERS TO EAT IN TROOP DINING FACILITIES AT VERY REASON-
ABLE RATES. A NUMBER OF OTHER ACTIONS, REQUIRING CON-
GRESSIONAL APPROVAL, HAVE BEEN RECOMMENDED TO THE CONGRESS
INCLUDING A PROPOSAL TO AUTHORIZE THE TRAVEL OF FAMILIES
OF JUNIOR ENLISTED PERSONNEL AT GOVERNMENT EXPENSE
AND ELIGIBILITY TO OCCUPY GOVERNMENT QUARTERS.

Q: HOW ARE THE TROOPS OF THE U.S. GARRISON
COMMITTED TO NATO?

A: THEY'RE NOT PART OF THE NATO FORCE STRUCTURE,
BUT ARE CHARGED SOLELY WITH THE MAINTENANCE OF A FREE
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Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
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Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY, STADIS
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Page Count: 15
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY, STADIS
Reference: 78 STATE 147755, 78 USBERLIN 1424
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 feb 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2311240
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE QUESTIONS AND SUGGESTED ANSWERS FOR THE PRESIDENT'S TOWN MEETING IN BERLIN (PART II OF II)
TAGS: OVIP, (CARTER, JIMMY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b21ec486-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014